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International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



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A model of earthquake clustering based on structural relaxation

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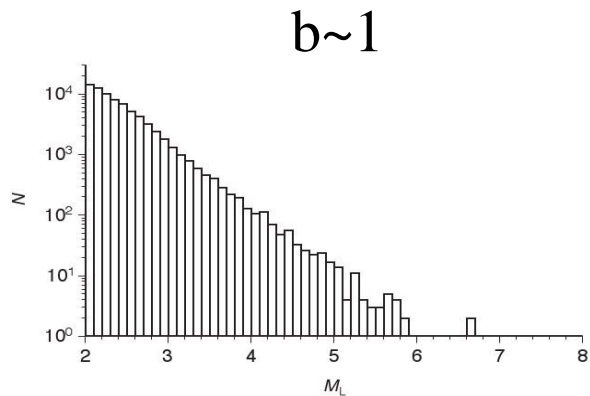
Overview:

- Three fundamental pieces of the phenomenology of earthquakes
- There is no simple statistical model that reproduces the all three
- Presentation of an old (spring-block) model with a new ingredient that explains the three features.
- (two of them today, third one on friday)

Three landmarks in the Phenomenology of Earthquakes

Gutenberg-Richter law:

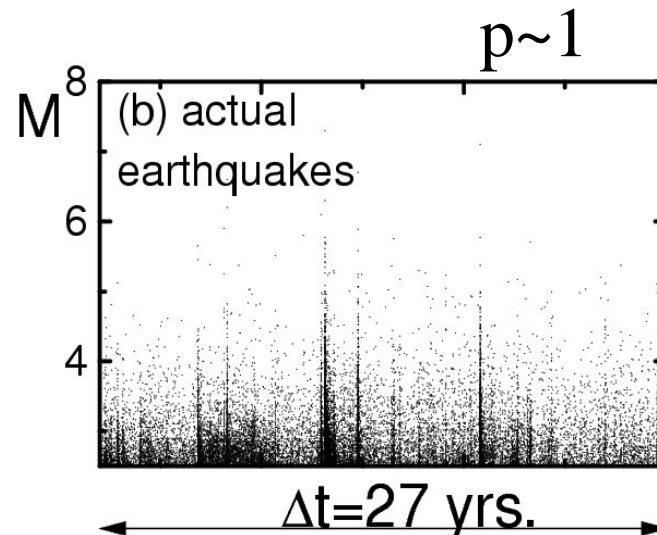
$$N(M) \sim 10^{-bM}$$



(Southern California data)

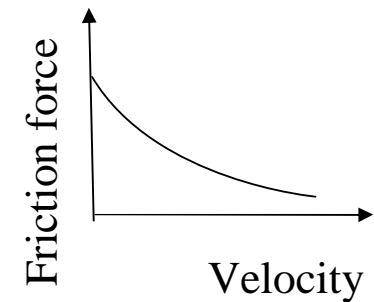
Omori-Utzu law of aftershocks:

$$N(t) \sim 1/(t+t_0)^p$$



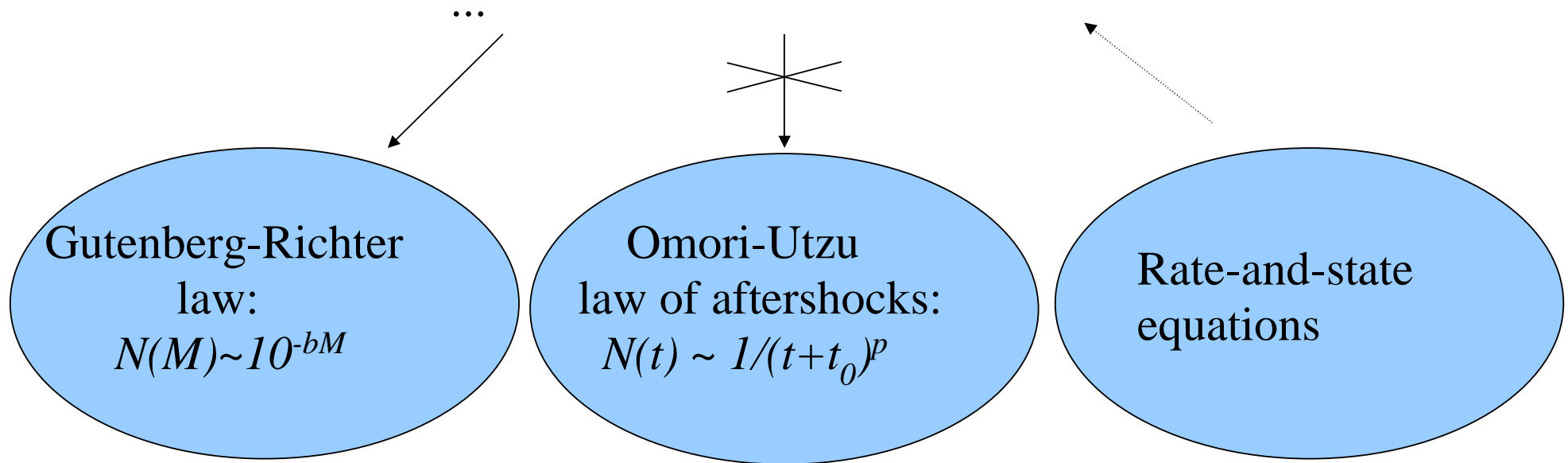
Rate-and-state equations

In particular:



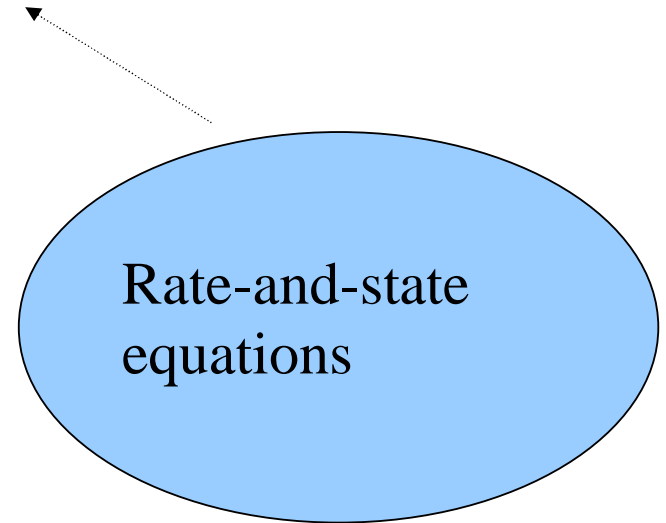
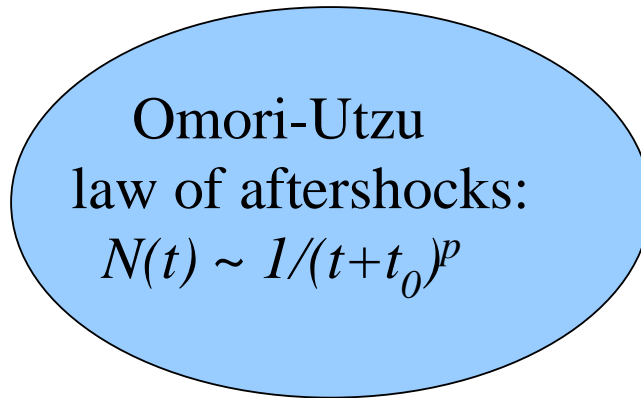
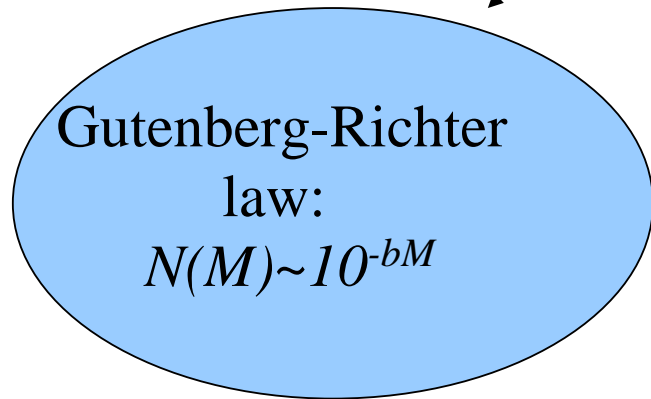
“Velocity weakening”

Spring-blocks models
(i.e., Burridge-Knopoff (BK),
Olami-Feder-Christensen (OFC))

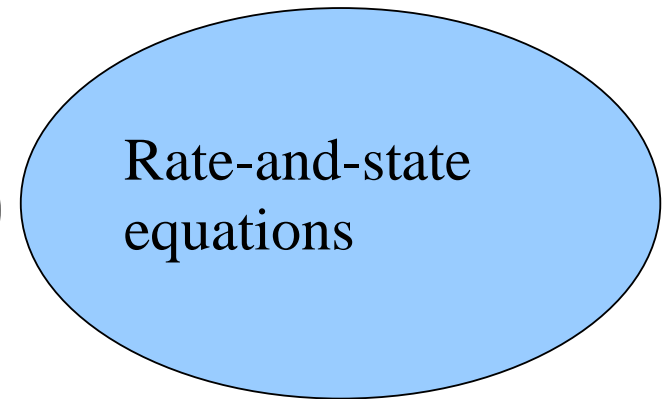
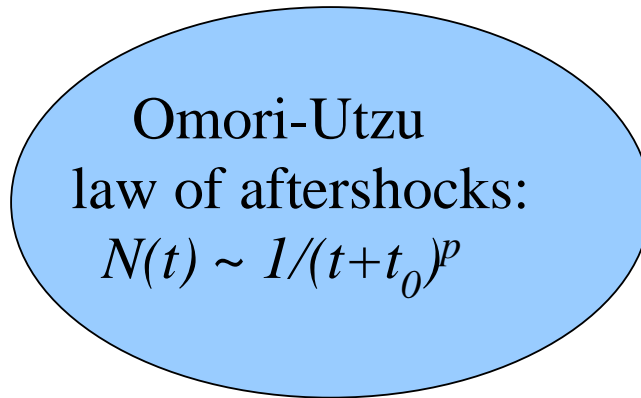
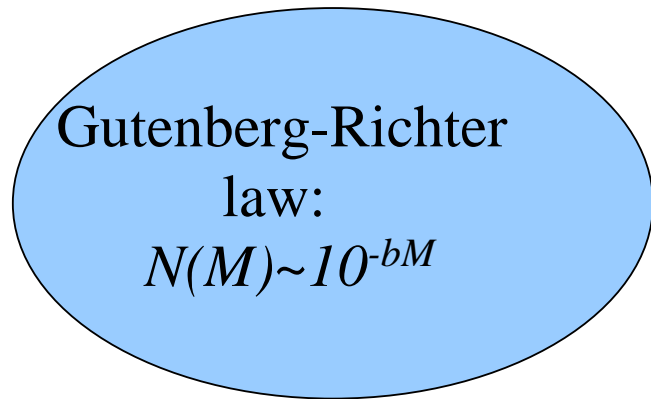


(requires tuning
of parameters
for realistic b)

Spring-blocks models
+ad hoc stress relaxation
(Ben Zion an Rice 1993
Hainzl et al 1999,2000)



Realistic b?



Dieterich (1995)
Ziv and Rubin (2003)

Spring-block model plus
Structural Relaxation

Frictional behavior
compatible with

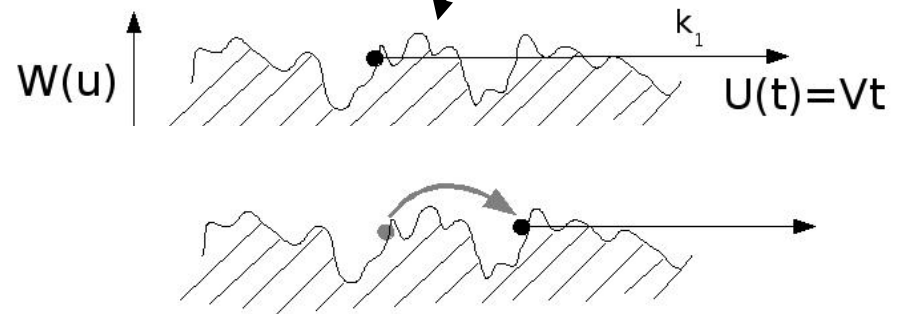
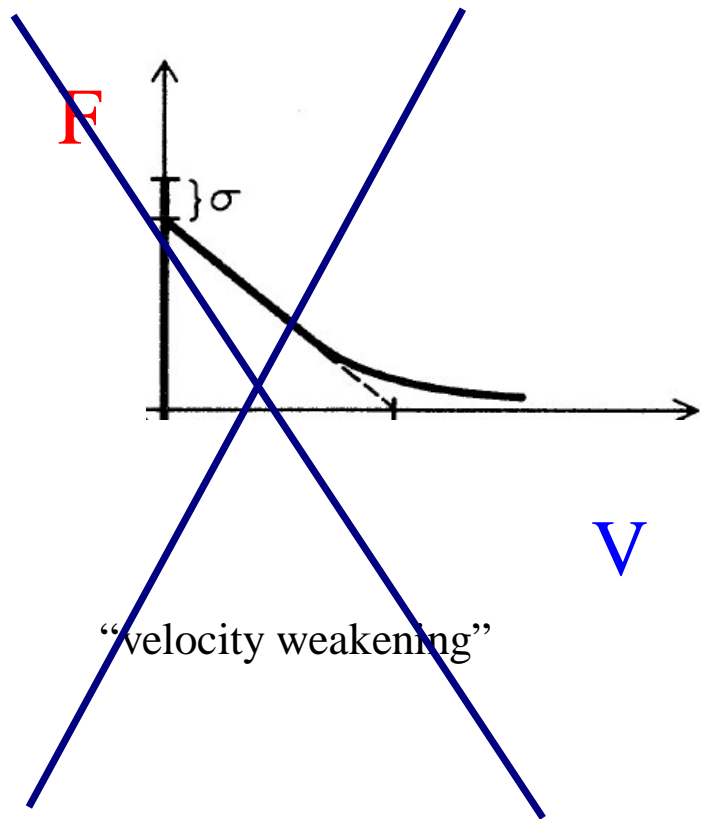
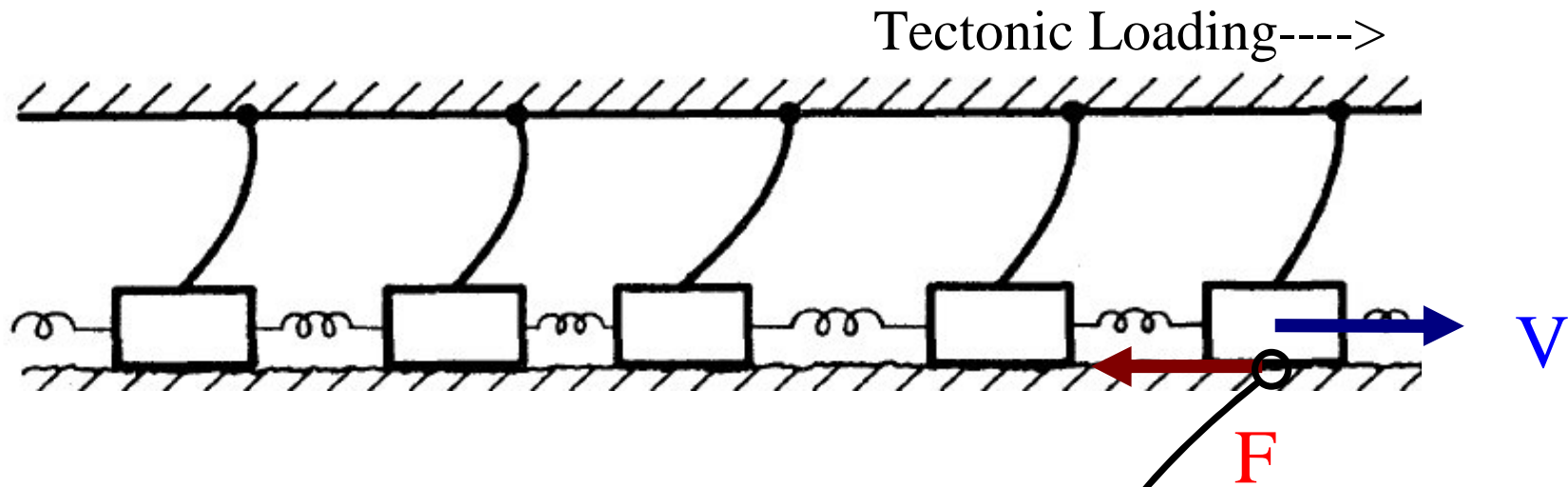
Gutenberg-Richter
law:

$$N(M) \sim 10^{-bM}$$

Omori-Utzu
law of aftershocks:

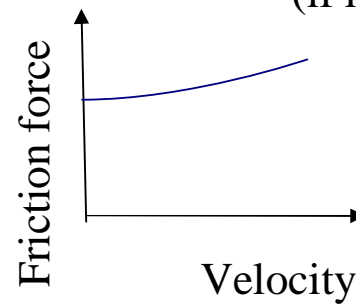
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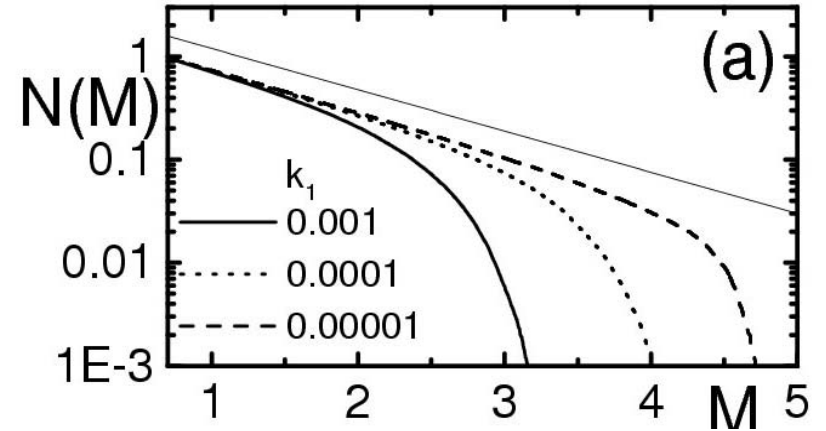
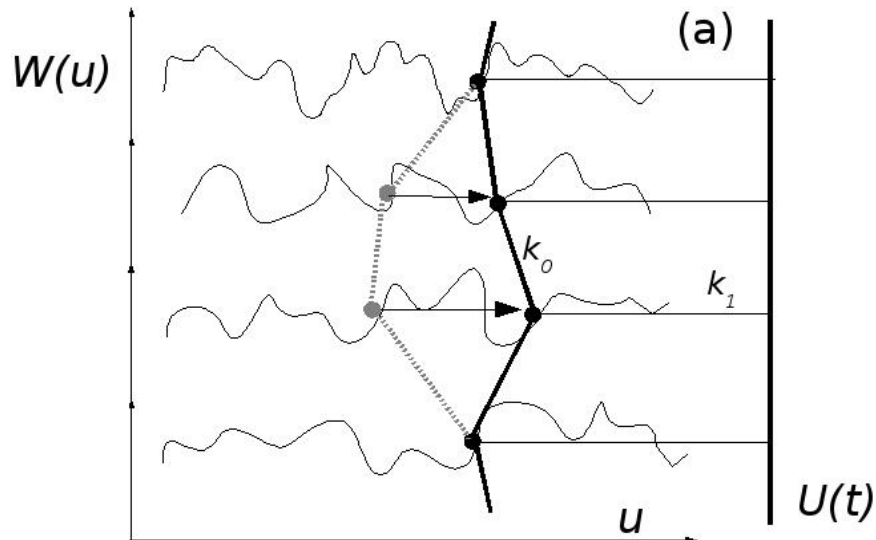
Rate-and-state
equations



“slip weakening”

(if k_1 sufficiently small)

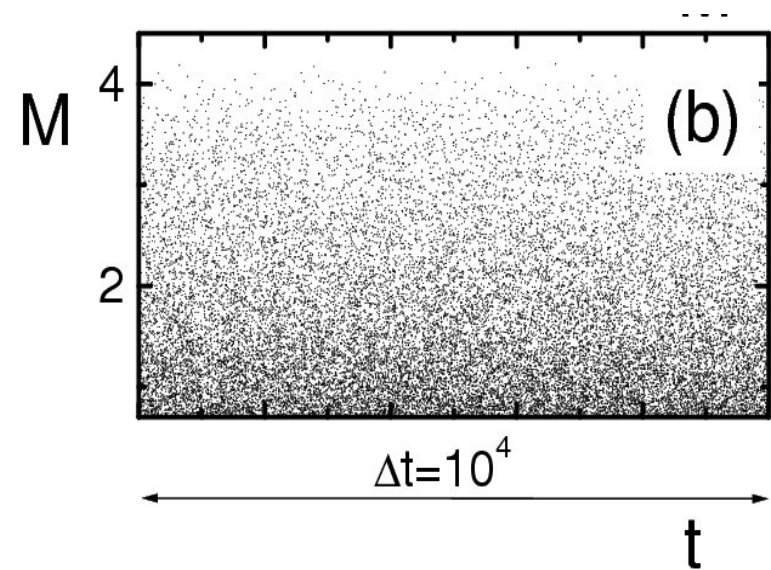




GR law, but unrealistic
exponent (0.4, against ~1)

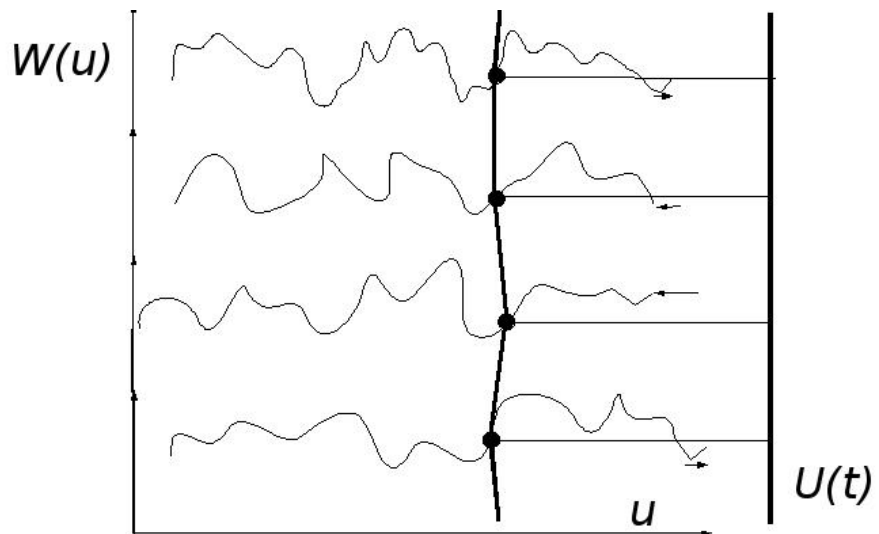
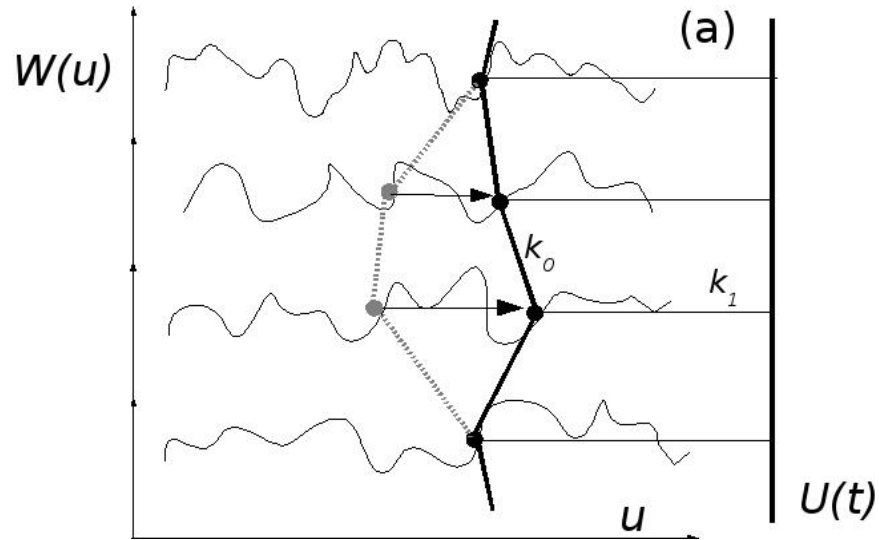
$$E = \sum_{i,j;i',j'} \frac{k_0}{2} (u_{i,j} - u_{i',j'})^2 + \sum_{i,j} \frac{k_1}{2} (U(t) - u_{i,j})^2 + \sum_{i,j} W_{i,j}(u_{i,j})$$

$$\frac{du_{i,j}}{dt} = -\lambda \frac{\delta E}{\delta u_{i,j}}$$



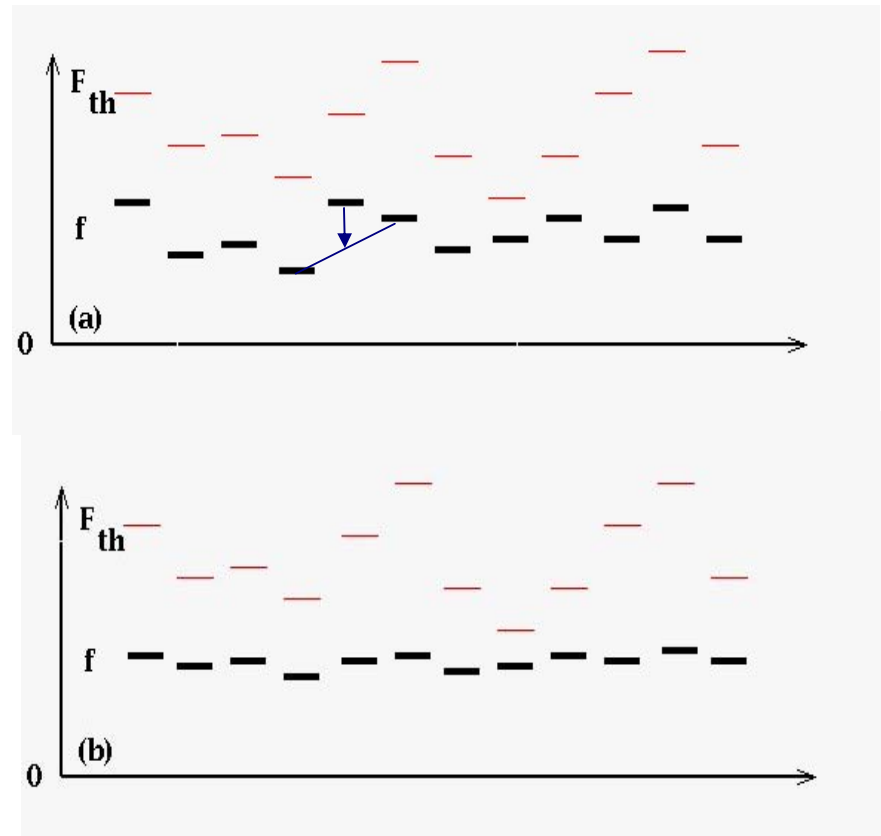
No clustering of events
Trivial frictional properties

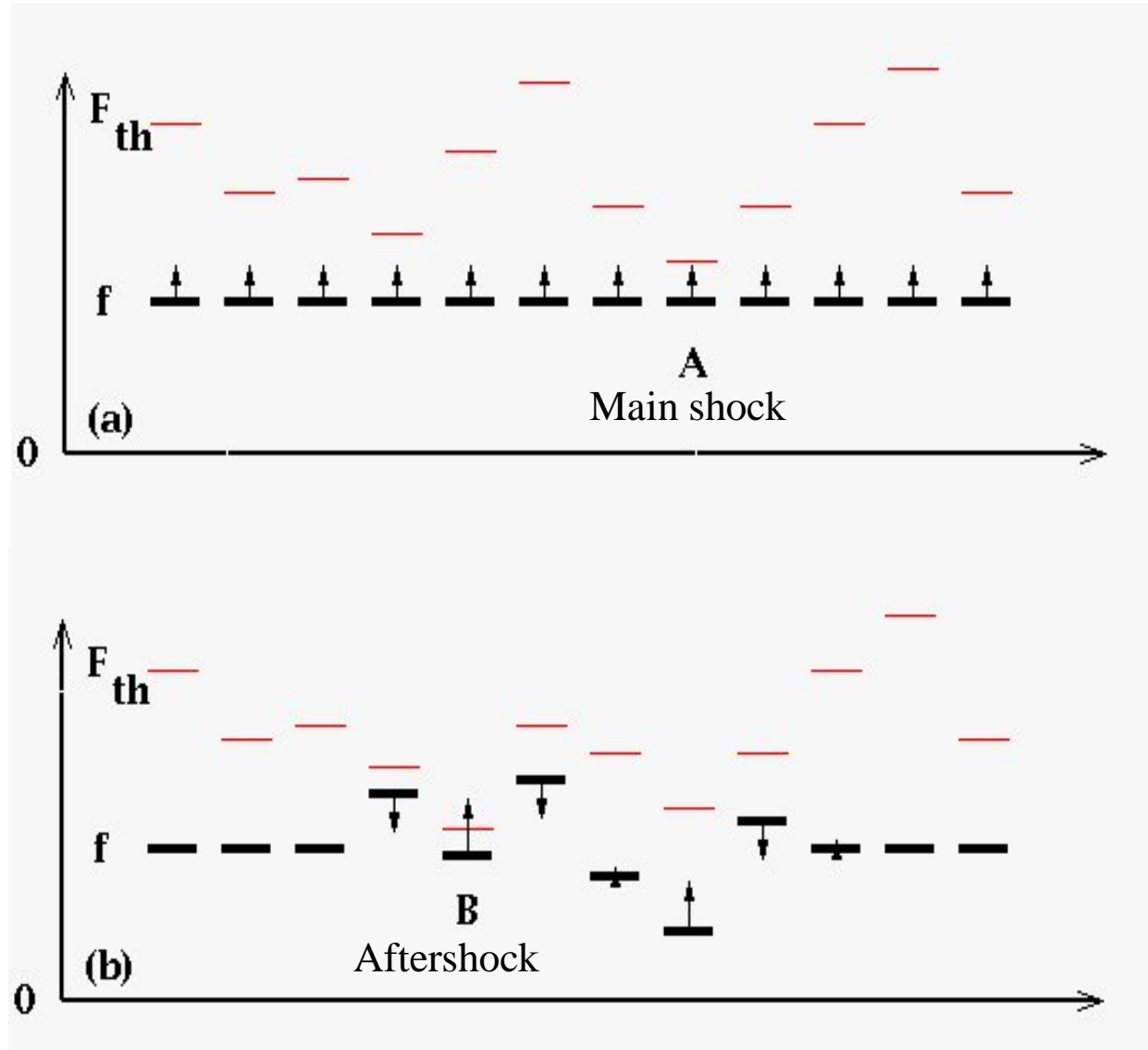
A time dependent mechanism (independent of Tectonic Loading) has to be included

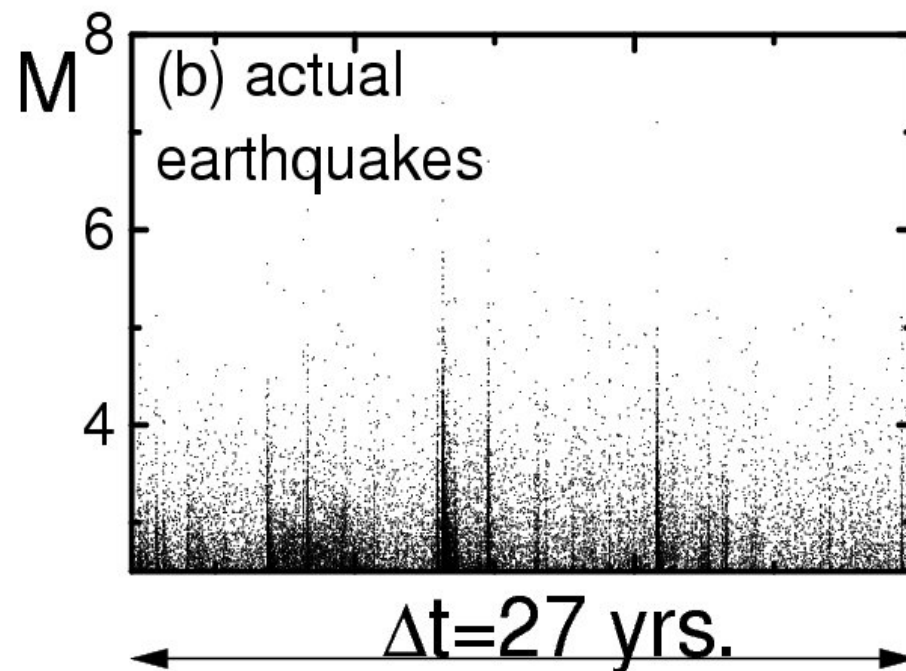
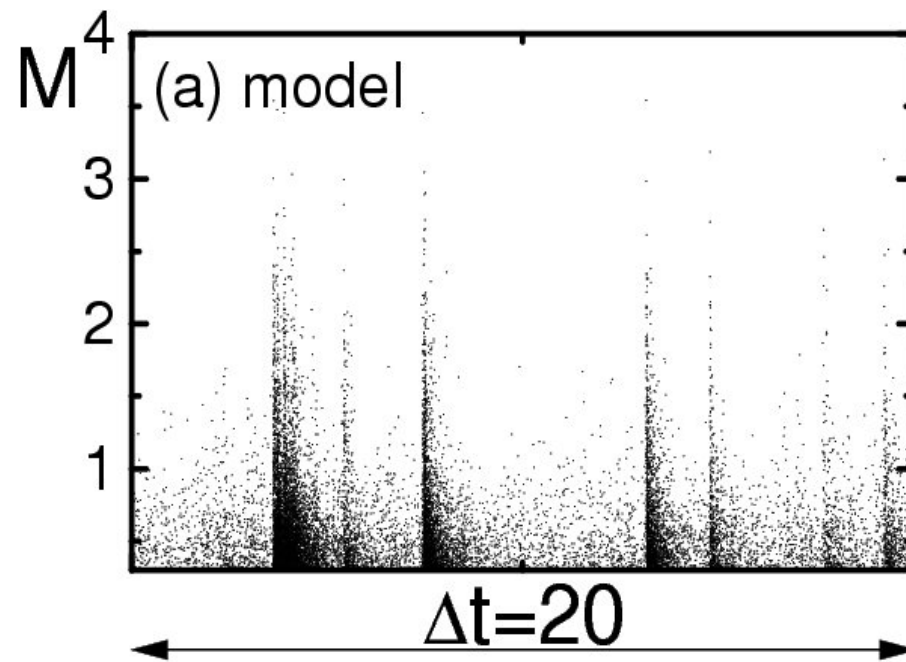


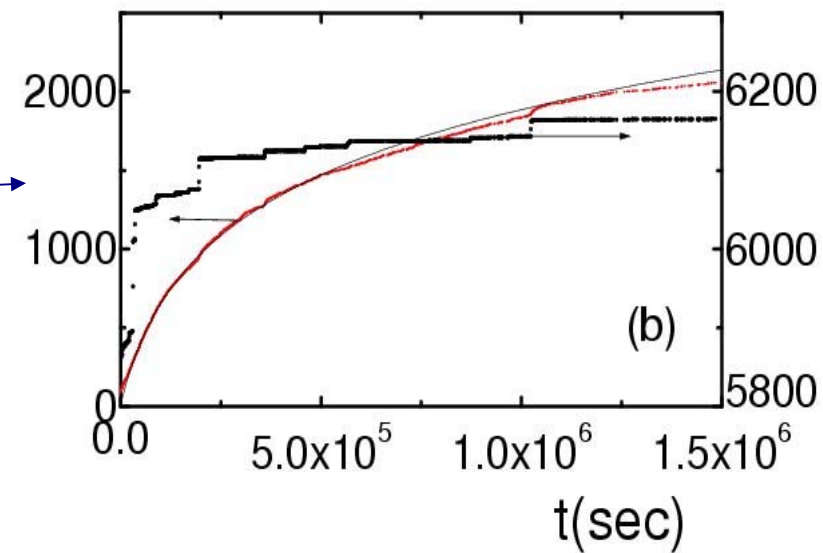
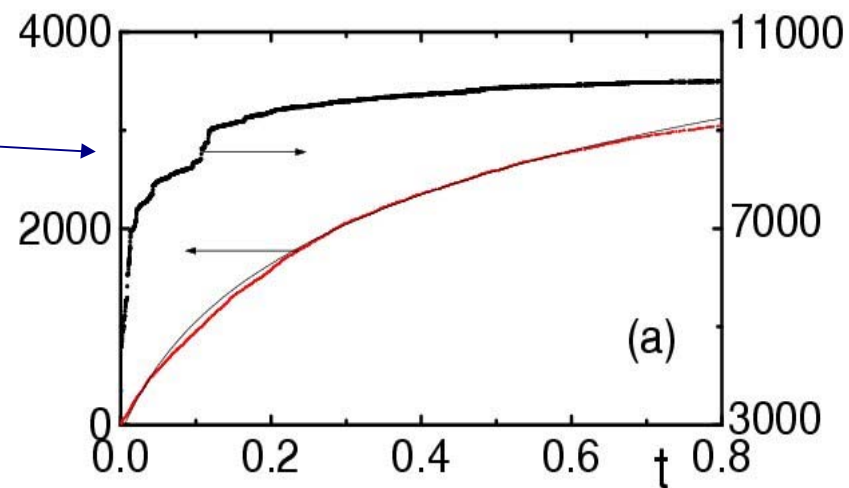
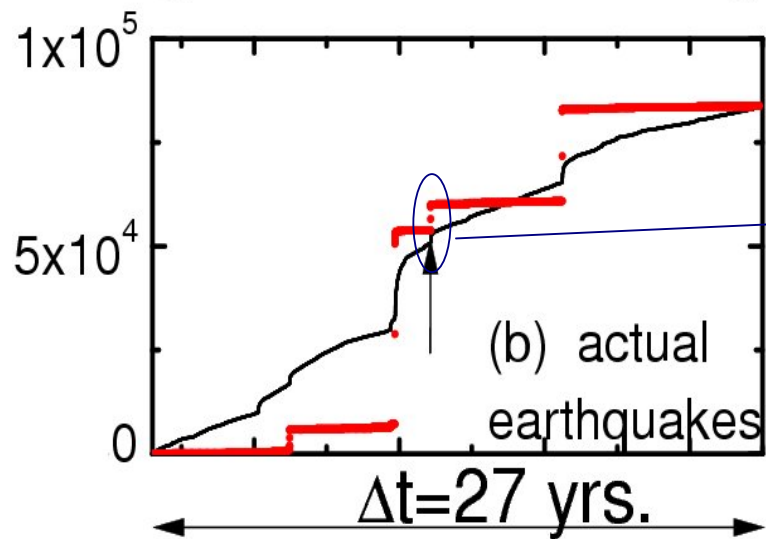
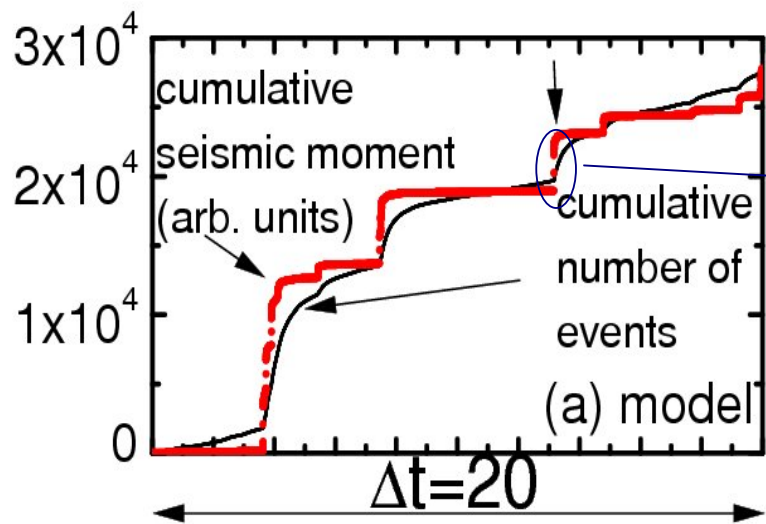
$$\sum_{i,j} W_{i,j}(u_{i,j}) \rightarrow \sum_{i,j} W_{i,j}(u_{i,j} - u_{i,j}^0)$$

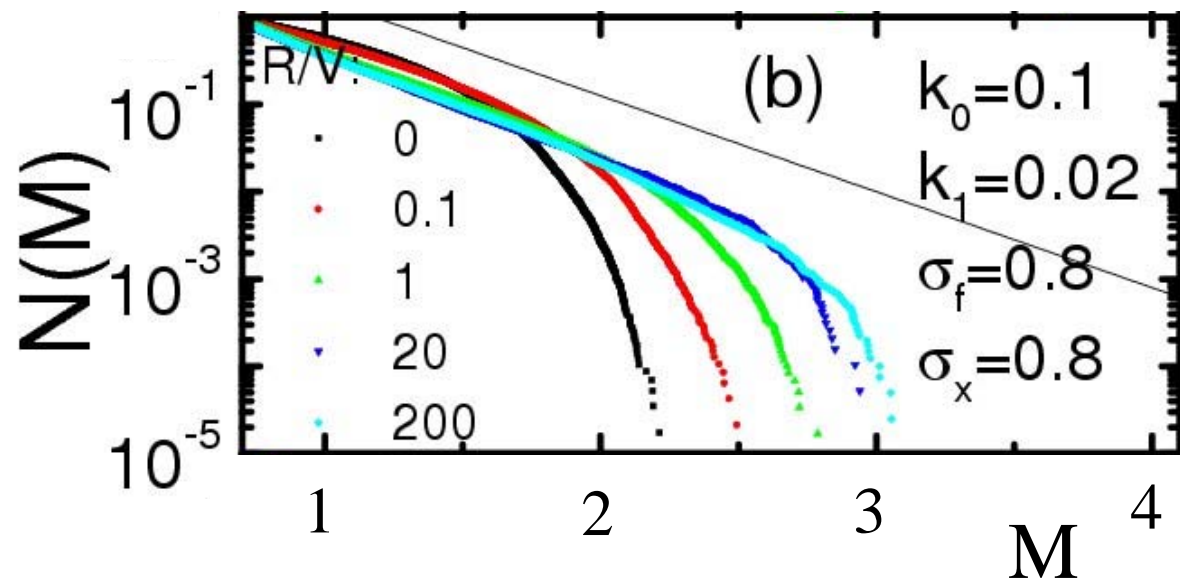
$$\frac{du_{i,j}^0}{dt} = R \nabla^2 \frac{\delta E}{\delta u_{i,j}^0}$$

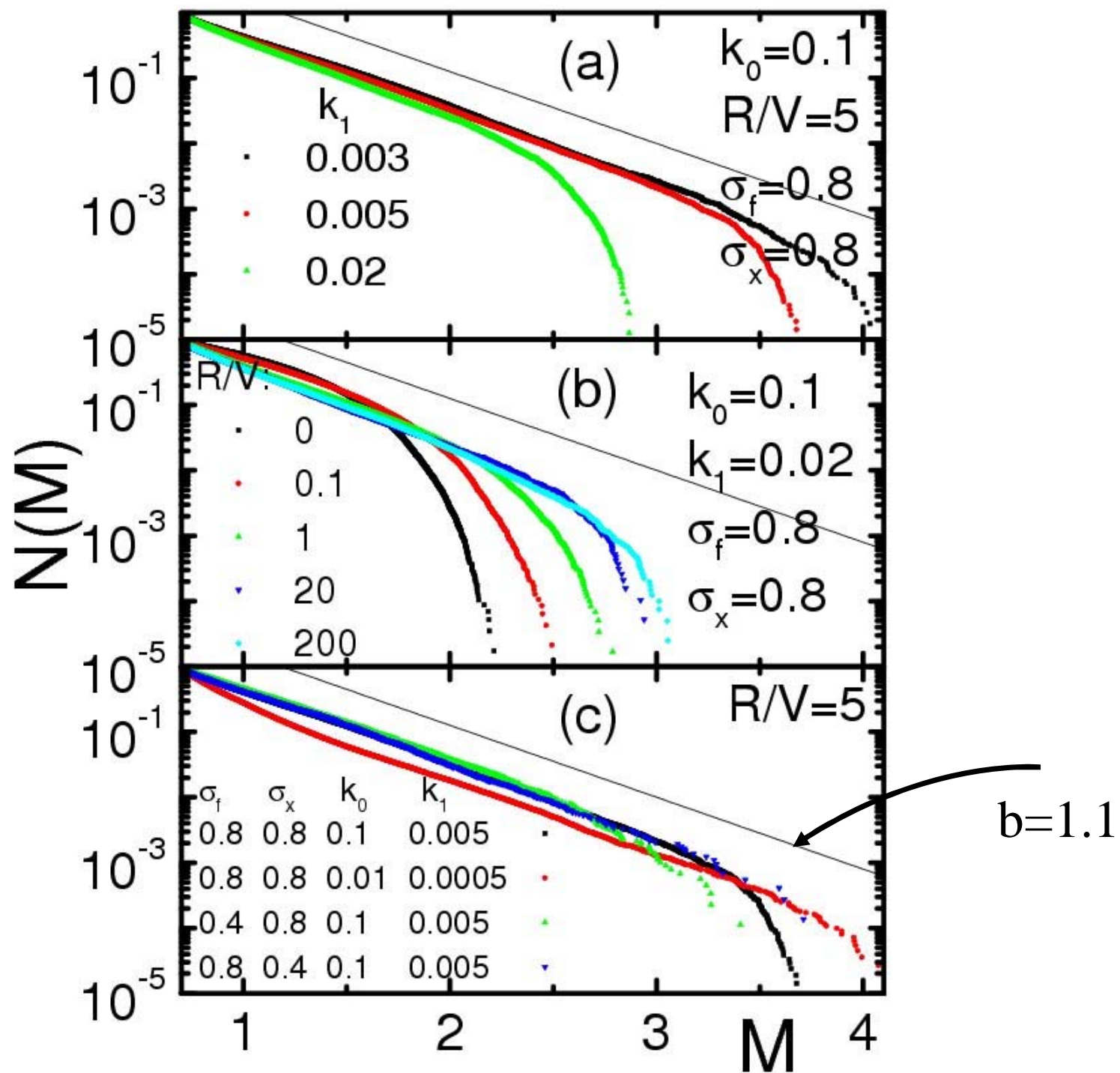


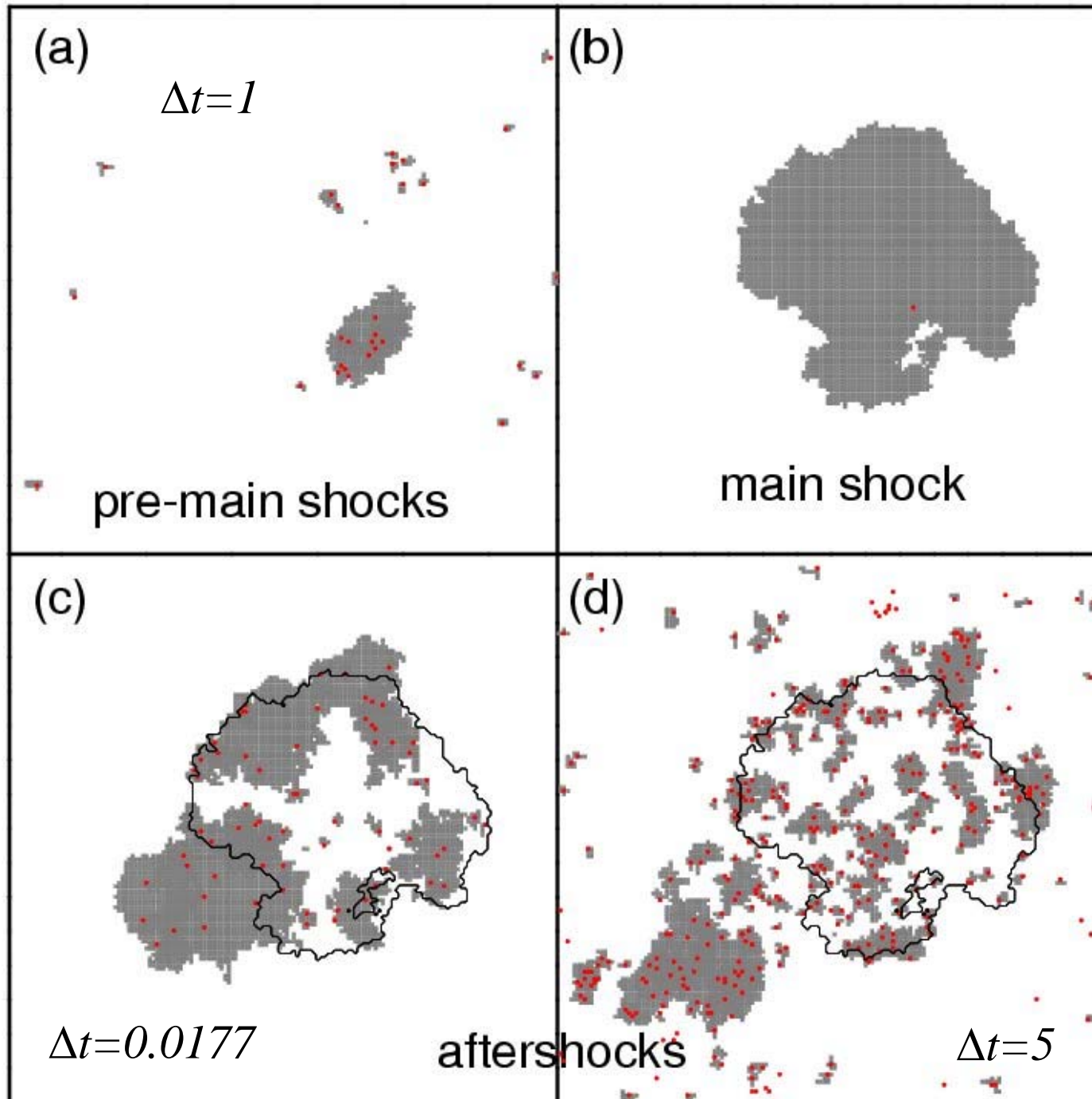












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Structural Relaxation

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See you on Friday!